

Facing Tough Decisions

The Board of Supervisors will face some very tough decisions at their next meeting. As you probably have heard, the California Legislature failed to restore \$48 million in funding for Orange County before adjourning in September. This means there will not be a legislative option to restore this funding until next year at the earliest.

The \$48 million in revenue was part of Orange County's balanced 2011-12 budget and the loss of this money means we must take action to bring spending in line with income. These adjustments are normally made on a quarterly basis and the first quarter of this fiscal year ended on SeptemThe Great California ShakeOut 10/20 at 10:20!

October 2011

How we prepare now, before a big earthquake, will determine what our lives will be like after.

BACKGROUND

At 10:20 a.m. on October 20, 2011, the County of Orange will join millions of Californians for the *Great California Great ShakeOut*, an annual event that reminds us to **Drop, Cover**, and Hold On during an earthquake. The ShakeOut is our chance to practice how to protect ourselves and to be prepared in the event of a large-magnitude earthquake.

Your participation in this exercise is vital. At **10:20 a.m.**, we encourage you to **Drop, Cover and Hold On** for three minutes. We need to be prepared for disasters, and knowing how to react when an earthquake occurs is critical to our personal and workplace safety.

For more information on the drill, please visit www.ShakeOut. org. To learn how to prepare yourself and your family for emergencies, visit Orange County's award-winning emergency preparedness resource, ReadyOC. You can also make a Promise to Prepare or download the free ReadyOC iPhone app from the site.

Check out the tips provided below courtesy of CEO/Risk Management for what to do during an earthquake – no matter where you find yourself.

WHAT TO DO DURING AN EARTHQUAKE

If indoors:

• **Drop** to the ground, take **Cover** by getting under a sturdy table or other piece of furniture, and **Hold On** until *(Continued on page 2)*

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(CEO'S MESSAGE: Continued from page 1)

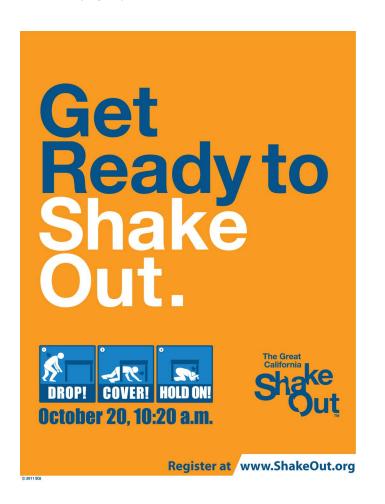
ber 30. As the economy continues to struggle, so have our revenues, and there is still much uncertainty about the future. The State is shifting responsibility for critical services to the County level and we are not certain when the State will pay us for providing these services. That means the County may be stuck with the bill for at least a period of time, making it critical that we maintain sufficient funds in reserve.

The County Executive Office will provide the Board with information about possible budget reductions and their impact, along with options to combine reductions with the use of some additional reserves or balances to fill the gap. Whatever the final approach, we know that many in the County family are likely to be affected by these decisions. We had all hoped that things would be better by now, but that is not the case and we must deal with the realities of the current financial situation.

Once the necessary decisions are made, we will be back in communication with you about the impact of the changes as well as with the employee organizations. Over the past four years, you have proven that you are up to the challenge of maintaining quality services in a challenging environment. Working as a team, I know we can meet this latest challenge.

Thomas G. Mauk County Executive Officer

(**The Great California ShakeOut – 10/20 at 10:20!** Continued from page 1)



the shaking stops. If there isn't a table or desk near you, cover your face and head with your arms and crouch in an inside corner of the building.

• Stay away from glass, windows, outside doors/ walls or anything that could fall (e.g., lighting fixtures or furniture).

• Stay in bed if you are there when an earthquake hits. Hold on and protect your head with a pillow unless you are under a heavy light fixture that could fall. In that case, move to the nearest safe place.

• Use a doorway for shelter only if it is in close proximity and you know for certain it is a strongly supported, load-bearing doorway. Getting under a desk or table is always the best choice.

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• Stay inside until the shaking stops and it is safe to go outside. Most injuries occur when people inside buildings attempt to move to a different location or try to exit. If you're in an office building or other County facility, the facility manager or member of management will make the decision when to evacuate.

• Be aware that the electricity may go out. Sprinkler and fire alarm systems may also activate.

• **DO NOT** use the elevators.

If outdoors:

- Stay there. Do not attempt to enter a building,
- Move away from all buildings, streetlights and utility wires.

• Once in the open, stay there until the shaking stops. The greatest danger is directly outside buildings at exits and alongside exterior walls. Many of the 120 fatalities from the 1933 Long Beach earthquake occurred when people ran outside of buildings and were struck by falling debris from collapsing walls. Ground movement during an earthquake is seldom the direct cause of death or injury. Most earthquake-related casualties result from collapsing walls, flying glass or falling objects.

If in a moving vehicle:

• Stop as quickly as safety permits and stay in the vehicle. Avoid stopping near or under buildings, trees, overpasses and utility wires.

• Proceed cautiously once the earthquake has stopped. Avoid roads, bridges or ramps that might have been damaged by the earthquake.

If trapped under debris:

- Do not light a match.
- Do not move about or kick up dust.
- Cover your mouth with a handkerchief or clothing.

Tap on a pipe or wall so rescuers can locate you. Use a whistle if one is available.
 Shout only as a last resort. Shouting can cause you to inhale dangerous amounts of dust.

2011 United Way Campaign Underway

The award winning efforts of the County of Orange to support programs and services offered through the United Way of Orange County were celebrated at the annual Campaign Leadership Breakfast held September 22 in Orange.

The County was recognized for having the largest employee giving campaign, raising \$588,000 last year. Approximately 3,800 County employees contributed to last year's campaign and this year's Campaign Chair, Interim Public Defender Frank Ospino, encouraged both new and enhanced contributions as the key to surpassing last year's fundraising mark. The motto for this year's campaign is "United to Make a Difference – Small Sacrifices Change Lives." That theme was carried forward by guest speaker Colonel Tom Magness of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who stressed the significance of changing lives through individual actions.

United Way CEO Max Gardner presented the County with the 2010 Outstanding Employee Giving Award and United Way representative Brie Griset presented a special "Walk United" award to the Social Services Agency for their excellent participation in that fundraiser.

HANK YOU For Restoring HOPE With Your Actions With Your Actions

UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN SLIDESHOW: CLICK HERE

United Way Orange County directly supports 92 agencies with 97 programs serving thousands of Orange County families. Gardner said his focus is on helping individuals achieve self-sufficiency through programs that improve education, income and health. He reminded the audience that 230,000 Orange County families struggle to meet their basic daily needs and current economic conditions have made the challenge even greater.

Re-Entry Programs Offer Second Chance

2010-11.

As correctional programs in California shift away from imprisoning offenders to community based supervision, greater emphasis is being placed on re-entry programs like those offered by the Orange County Probation and Sheriff's Departments.

Planning for the re-entry of incarcerated individuals into the community actually begins behind bars. "We have two dedicated Probation officers in the jail system," said Robert Rangel, Probation Department Community Resources Division Director. "They meet with inmates in the jail and help them get enrolled in available in-custody programs. This includes a 'Probation 101' class in jail so they will know what to expect upon release." Other programs include substance abuse counseling and anger management classes aimed at changing the behaviors that may have contributed to the individual's incarceration.

The Transition from Jail to Community, or TJC program, has been in operation since 2009 and is a cooperative program involving the Sheriff's Department, Probation and community resource (Continued on page 5)

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providers who work together to enhance services. "Services are targeted at the inmates who are at the highest risk of re-offending," said Rangel, who explained that the evaluation tools in use do a good job of identifying these individuals when they first come into the system. "Re-entry planning now starts at booking and that traditionally has not been the case."

The growing importance of re-entry programs has also led to greater coordination between Sheriff's Department and Probation staff. "Inmate Services staff and Deputy Probation Officers now share information in a more formalized way," Rangel noted. This coordination extends to the OC Re-Entry Partnership, or OC Rep, which allows Probation, the Sheriff's Department and community resource providers to discuss issues of mutual concerns and work together on grant applications for new or enhanced services. "We all speak the same language now," Rangel said in addressing how this cooperation has led to a more cohesive system that avoids duplication of services.

Upon release, individuals are encouraged to utilize the Sheriff's Department's Great Escape Resource Center. The Great Escape Resource Center assists formerly incarcerated individuals who have participated in rehabilitative programs while in custody. Some of the resources offered at the Great Escape Resource Center include referrals to residential treatment programs, housing and shelter information, food and clothing referrals along with direct links to other community based providers. In 2007 over 9,500 inmates participated in Inmate Re-Entry in-custody services. Since the opening of the Great Escape Resource Center in January of 2007, over 1,200 formerly incarcerated individuals have visited the facility to obtain additional resources. By providing these services, the Sheriff's Department's Great Escape Resource Center is helping to make our communities safer, lower recidivism rates, and bring families together.



Many probationers also participate in the Center for Opportunity, Re-Entry and Education, or CORE program. CORE targets adults who are in need of education services and is a partnership with the Orange County Department of Education. In addition to education programs, CORE offers skill building services like job preparation and programs designed to help participants improve their social skills and enhance their chances for success in the community.

Plans by the State of California to release more inmates from prison and return them to the community will increase the importance of re-entry programs. "The net just got wider," Rangel stated in talking about the number of people who will need services. This also gives local programs a chance to reduce the cycle of recidivism. "If you address their risks and needs, you can make a difference." Existing re-entry programs have provided the foundation for what is coming next. The Probation Department has even established a new Post Release Community Supervision Division in response to this challenge, with the first inmates released under the State's new program expected to arrive in October.

Treasurer Achieves National Post

Congratulations to Orange County Treasurer-Tax Collector Shari Freidenrich for her selection as the 2011-12 President Elect of the Association of Public Treasurers of the United States and Canada.

Ms. Freidenrich was appointed to the President-Elect post during the group's recent annual conference in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The Association of Public Treasurers of the United States was founded in 1965 and represents public treasury and finance officials in local, county, and state/provincial governments throughout North America.

She was elected Treasurer-Tax Collector of the County of Orange in November 2010 and took office in January 2011. Prior to her election, Ms. Freidenrich had served as Treasurer for the City of Huntington Beach since 1996. During her career in the municipal treasury field, she also served as the President of the California Municipal Treasurer's Association (CMTA) in 2003-2004 and was the Southern California Division Chair for CMTA.



Important Anniversary for Orange County Open Space

The month of October marks the fifth anniversary of the designation of 40,000 acres of open space on the historic Irvine Ranch in Orange County as a National Natural Landmark (NNL) by the U.S. Department of Interior. The Irvine Ranch NNL is one of only 600 Natural Landmarks in the United States and was the first designated in California in nearly 30 years.

It was just last summer that the County of Orange accepted a donation of the last 20,000 acres of private open space in the Landmark from Irvine Company Chairman Donald Bren, bringing to more than 40,000 acres the area protected forever for residents and visitors to enjoy. The City of Irvine, California State Parks and the City of Newport Beach also own parks and open space in the Landmark.



A group of hikers prepares to explore Fremont Canyon, part of the Irvine Ranch National Natural Landmark in Orange County.

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To celebrate the fifth anniversary of the National Natural Landmark designation, the Orange County Board of Supervisors, along with the cities of Irvine and Newport Beach, will consider proclaiming October as "Irvine Ranch Natural Landmarks Month." Special public programs will be conducted throughout the month by organizations involved with the land including OC Parks, the non-profit Irvine Ranch Conservancy, California State Parks, and many others. These programs are in addition to more than 350 regularly-scheduled activities. Anniversary events include hikes with special quests such as county supervisors and mayors, naturalistled hikes and mountain bike rides to visit unique features of the land that led to the Landmark designation. For a full list of programs and to sign up online, visit www.irlandmarks.org/activities.

"The National Natural Landmark designation has been a powerful rallying point for everyone who shares the vision of excellent stewardship on these lands and wants to experience them," says Irvine Ranch Conservancy Executive Director Michael O'Connell. "It shows people that we have the equivalent of a national park right in our own backyard." Areas designated as Natural Landmarks undergo exhaustive review by the National Park Service, and must meet high scientific standards. The preserved open space of the historic Irvine Ranch – also designated California's first State Natural Landmark in 2008 – is part of a global "hot-spot" of biological diversity. It contains an abundance of rare habitats and species, along with rock formations and fossils. There are more than 250 miles of hiking, biking and riding trails to experience along with beaches, shady oak canyons, rare native grasslands, and incredible views.

Benefit Enrollment Time Has Arrived

You've probably already received a postcard in the mail reminding you that the County's annual Benefits Open Enrollment Period is just around the corner. Well, there's more to come!

The Benefits Open Enrollment period will take place from November 1 through November 23, 2011. You'll receive your Open Enrollment package at the end of October. When your package arrives in the mail, please take a few minutes to go through all of the enclosed information and note the deadline for submitting any changes or required information. The Benefits Open Enrollment period is your opportunity to select the benefits that are right for you and your family and is the time of year when you can change health plans. In addition, there may be actions you need to take! This includes recertifying any adult children ages 19-25 who may be on your coverage, reviewing your Automatic Benefits Coverage for 2012 and making decisions about a Health Care Reimbursement and Dependent Care Reimbursement Accounts for 2012.



As always, there's lots of information about the County's benefits available online at www. benefitsweb.com/countyoforange.html. Finally, remember that you must submit any changes or required information by the deadline stated in the Open Enrollment materials. Don't wait until the last minute – get started as soon as your Open Enrollment package arrives!

Choose a Chihuahua



Get the 411 on OC Animal Care

- 1. OC Animal Care provides animal control, sheltering and licensing services to residents in the following Orange County cities: Anaheim, Brea, Cypress, Fountain Valley, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Laguna Hills, Lake Forest, Orange, Placentia, Rancho Santa Margarita, San Juan Capistrano, Stanton, Tustin, Villa Park, Yorba Linda and unincorporated areas.
- 2. OC Animal Care has adopted 7,161 animals, returned 2,384 animals to their owners and has sent 417 animals to foster care this year so far. In addition, OC Animal Care Field Services Officers have provided assistance on more than 46,000 calls.
- 3. OC Animal Care hosts many special adoption events throughout the year. This year, 528 animals have been adopted at these special events. OC Animal Care's largest event of the year is "Angels for Animals," sponsored by the Angels Baseball Foundation and the players' wives. This event raises thousands of dollars for our shelter each year and helps place animals into loving, forever homes.
- 4. This past year, OC Animal Care has had many exciting additions and improvements! A new non-profit organization, Noble Friends Foundation for OC Animal Care, was created to benefit the shelter. In addition, the installation of the Koolfog Misting System will help keep the dogs cool and comfortable during the hot, summer months.
- 5. When a lost pet arrives at OC Animal Care, staff's first goal is to reunite them with their owners. To achieve this goal, they constantly strive to educate the public about the importance of microchipping and licensing pets. This year, OC Animal Care began to offer low-cost microchipping at monthly vaccination clinics. During Microchip Awareness Month in June, OC Animal Care hosted two low-cost Microchip Clinics in conjunction with SCVMA. During these clinics, 197 animals were microchipped!

To learn more about OC Animal Care, please visit www.ocpetinfo.com.



35 YEARS

Nelda Stone OC Community Services

Evangelina Chavez Social Services

Teresa Rodriguez Social Services

Daisy Whitehead Social Services

30 YEARS

Barbara Young Child Support Services

Crystal Lee County Executive Office

Alexander Soles Health Care Agency

Patricia Gilbert Human Resources Department

Harry Persaud OC Public Works

James Igarta Probation

Timothy Stanford Sheriff-Coroner Marylou Garcia Sheriff-Coroner

Tan Nguyen Social Services Agency

Leslie Morales Treasurer-Tax Collector

25 YEARS

Dena Basham District Attorney

Nancy Danger District Attorney

Angelica Delpozo Health Care Agency

William Friedlander OC Public Works

Patricia Daniells OC Public Works

David Soto OC Public Works

Edward Harrison Probation

Terry Bowers Sheriff-Coroner

John Carpenter Sheriff-Coroner

James Clark Sheriff-Coroner

Craig Essex Sheriff-Coroner

David Ginther Sheriff-Coroner Patrick Higa Sheriff-Coroner

Lynette Johnson Sheriff-Coroner

Keith Prinzing Sheriff-Coroner

Kathleen Rotherham Sheriff-Coroner

Guadalupe Aguilar Social Services Agency

Gabriela Hernandez Social Services Agency

Vichheka Hou Social Services Agency

Celia Pacheco Social Services Agency

20 YEARS

Brian Ennis Assessor

Estrella Orejudos Assessor

Elizabeth Perez Auditor Controller

Diane Smalley Child Support Services

Elvia Duran Health Care Agency

Shirley Quan OC Community Resources

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20 YEARS CONTINUED

Gloria Robinson OC Community Resources

John Hussey OC Public Works

Kenneth Cole Sheriff-Coroner

Flavio De Moraes Sheriff-Coroner

Lorena Alcaraz Social Services Agency

Roberta Bracamonte Social Services Agency

Joseph Chavarin Social Services Agency

Blanca Corlett Social Services Agency Gabina Corona Social Services Agency

Carla Duran Social Services Agency

Trinidad Garcia Social Services Agency

Peter Espinoza Social Services Agency

M C Gonzales Social Services Agency

Edna Harris Social Services Agency

Azucena Holgado Social Services Agency

Leticia Lopez Social Services Agency

Patty Markus Social Services Agency Agustin Matus Social Services Agency

Andrew Mawson Social Services Agency

Leticia Nedeau Social Services Agency

Florence Puente Social Services Agency

Isela Rodriguez Social Services Agency

Nilsa Rodriguez-Montalvo Social Services Agency

Patricia Romo Social Services Agency

Rosa Ruiz-Guzman Social Services Agency

Peggy Vivirito Social Services Agency



"Making Orange County a safe, healthy, and fulfilling place to live, work, and play, today and for generations to come, by providing outstanding, cost-effective regional public services."

Click here to read the full mission and values statement.





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